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Addendum

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Programme questions

Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001

***Programme 6. Africa*: New Agenda for Development**

1. At its 24th and 25th meetings, on 17 and 18 August 1998, the Committee considered the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001. It had before it the proposal in respect of programme 6, Africa: New Agenda for Development.

Discussion

2. It was pointed out that successful implementation of the programme would require further improvement and enhancement of linkages between all three subprogrammes and strengthening of the coordination among the organizational units of the Secretariat responsible for the programme implementation.

3. The need for further coordination of efforts of African countries and support of the international community in the implementation of the New Agenda within the framework of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa was stressed. It was recalled that certain criteria and indicators for assessment of the progress achieved in carrying out activities of the Special Initiative for the implementation of the New Agenda should be developed in preparation of its final review to be undertaken in the year 2002.

4. The view was expressed that the revisions should have reflected more clearly social aspects of development in Africa as one of the objectives of the programme, in particular in the field of basic education.

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5. The view was expressed that the implementation of the action-oriented guidelines to be adopted at the Second Tokyo International Conference on African Development should be encouraged in the context of subprogramme 6.1, in accordance with the relevant actions taken by the General Assembly.

6. The view was also expressed that the role of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa, in relation to the New Agenda presented in the revision of subprogramme 6.2 was not fully in line with resolution 51/32 of 6 December 1996, in which the General Assembly recognized the complementary role of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa in the implementation of the New Agenda, including the mobilization of adequate resources, while avoiding unnecessary duplication of activities, and with the subsequent recommendations of the Committee made at its thirty-seventh session and the first part of its thirty-eighth session.

7. The view was expressed that, within the framework of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa, the role of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in the implementation of subprogramme 6.2 had been broadened and included the facilitation of the implementation of the action programmes for African development, and that, accordingly, the title of subprogramme 6.2 should be revised to reflect that aspect. The view was also expressed that the revisions of subprogramme 6.2 should have reflected the leadership role of the United Nations Development Programme at the national level through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework process, and that the role of ECA was to contribute to the process at the field level.

8. The view was expressed that the mandate of ECA might not include such aspects as formulating technical assistance programmes and mobilization of resources. Concern was raised as to the possible duplication of activities related to dissemination of information with those entrusted to the Department of Public Information under subprogramme 6.3.

Conclusions and recommendations

9. The Committee welcomed the proposed revisions to programme 6. It stressed the importance it attached to African development and reaffirmed the priority assigned to Africa by the General Assembly.

10. The Committee recommended approval of the revisions to programme 6 of the medium-term plan, subject to the following modifications:

A. Programme

(a) In the last sentence of new paragraph 6.3, *replace* as defined by African countries themselves *with* in accordance with priorities set by national Governments.

(b) *Insert* the last sentence of new paragraph 6.4 as new paragraph 6.3 *bis* as follows: The document entitled "Relaunching Africa's economic and social development: the Cairo Agenda for Action", which the General Assembly took note of in resolution 50/160, not only focused on what Africa could do for itself but also reaffirmed the contribution the international community could make to Africa's recovery and development.

(c) *Replace* the first three sentences of new paragraph 6.4 *with* The Tokyo International Conference on African Development, held in 1993, stressed the ownership of African countries in their nation-building efforts, renewed the commitment of the international community to African development and provided an impetus for increased cooperation between Africa and Asia. The Second Tokyo International

Conference on African Development is scheduled for October 1998 and will aim at furthering African development based on the principle of ownership and partnership, focusing on such areas as education and health care, women empowerment and agricultural and private sector development, some of which are also priority areas of the New Agenda. In its resolution 51/32 on the mid-term review of the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, the General Assembly took note of the outcome of the High-level Seminar on African Development, held at Tokyo on 27 and 28 August 1996.

(d) *Replace* the last sentence of new paragraph 6.5 *with* At its fifty-third session, the General Assembly will review the recommendations contained in the report and the Economic and Social Council will review their implementation at its substantive session of 1999.

B. Subprogrammes

Subprogramme 6.1

(a) In paragraph 6.5:

(i) Retain the current paragraph with the new department name

(ii) At the end of the paragraph, add the last sentence of new paragraph 6.8

(b) Delete the proposed addition to paragraph 6.6 (b)

(c) In paragraph 6.6 (e), *replace* policy and operational levels *with* policy level

(d) In paragraph 6.6, new subparagraph (f):

(i) *Replace* various *with* measures and approved

(ii) *Delete* of the Secretary-General to the Security Council

(iii) *Delete* monitoring

(e) At the end of paragraph 6.6 (current subparagraph (f)), *add* in mobilization of sufficient resources

Subprogramme 6.2

(a) In the title of the subprogramme, *insert* facilitation *after* assessment

(b) In the first sentence of paragraph 6.7, *after* ECA *insert* in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme and within the framework of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative for the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,

(c) In paragraph 6.8 (a), *after* United Nations agencies *replace* to the implementation *with* at the regional level in the context

(d) In paragraph 6.8 (b), *replace* To facilitate *with* To contribute to the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s in facilitating

(e) In paragraph 6.8 (d), *replace* To assist Member States *with* To contribute to the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s

(f) In paragraph 6.8 (e), *replace* and *with* through

Subprogramme 6.3

(a) In paragraph 6.10 (a), *after* press releases *insert* as well as the use of other means and strategies of communications for better reach

(b) In paragraph 6.10 (b), *after* economic *insert* and social

(c) In paragraph 6.10 (c), *replace* Special Initiative *with* United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, in the context of its final review and appraisal by the General Assembly in the year 2002.